

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A leak detection system for a flowing electrolyte battery comprising:
  - at least one manifold leak containment member associated with at least one manifold which provides flowing electrolyte to at least one stack of a flowing electrolyte battery; and
  - means for sensing a fluid leak within the at least one manifold leak containment member.
2. The system of claim 1 wherein the sensing means comprises:
  - at least one switch comprising a first plate and a second plate, wherein fluid within the containment member serves to electrically couple the first plate to the second plate, to, in turn, close the switch;
  - a controller associated with the switch, the controller capable of sensing the condition of the switch; and
  - a connector electrically associating the switch and the controller.
3. The system of claim 2 wherein the sensing means further comprises:
  - a resistor positioned in parallel to the switch.
4. The system of claim 2 wherein the at least one switch comprises a plurality of switches positioned in parallel.



substantially in parallel.

9. The leak detection system of claim 6 wherein the sensor includes at least one resistor positioned in parallel with the at least one switch.

10. The leak detection system of claim 6 wherein the controller includes a means for signaling the condition of the sensor to a user.